State of California—Health and Human Services Agency

# Department of Health Services

California
Department of
Health Services

**DIANA M. BONTÁ, R.N., Dr. P.H.**
Director

**GRAY DAVIS**
Governor

October 31, 2003

TO:      ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS      Letter No.: 03-51
ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS
ALL COUNTY MEDI-CAL PROGRAM SPECIALISTS/LIAISONS
ALL COUNTY HEALTH EXECUTIVES
ALL COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY QMB/SLMB/QI COORDINATORS

SUBJECT:   THE EXTENSION OF THE QUALIFYING INDIVIDUAL 1 PROGRAM
SUNSET DATE TO MARCH 31, 2004
(Ref: All County Welfare Directors Letter Nos.: 98-08, 98-15, 98-47,
98-60, 99-14, 99-43, 99-61, 03-02 and 03-20)

This notifies counties of the extension of the Qualifying Individuals 1 (QI-1) Program
sunset date to March 31, 2004.

The Q I-1 program provides the state payment of the Medicare Part B premium for
individuals with income below 135 percent of the federal poverty level. The QI-1
program was scheduled to sunset December 31, 2002. Congress has granted several
extensions including the most current extension date of March 31, 2004.

Counties are to continue accepting applications and setting up cases for the QI-1
program. The Department of Health Services will continue to keep county staff updated
on the status of the QI-1 program. Please be aware that Congress typically approves
the QI-1 extension dates at the last minute before the program is to sunset. For future
reference, when/if the QI-1 programs sunsets, the Department will be responsible for
discontinuing QI-1 coverage, sending a notice to the beneficiaries, making the QI-1 aid
code (8D) invalid, and sending a report to the counties listing QI-1 discontinued
individuals.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call Vicki Partington of my staff at (916) 552-9496 or Email Vparting@dhs.ca.gov.

Original signed by

Beth Fife, Chief
Medi-Cal Eligibility Branch